

House Armed Services Committee

DEMOCRATS

For immediate release: May 18, 2005

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Systems Required to Implement Cost Controls

Washington D.C.—Today the House Armed Services Committee considered the portion of H.R.1815, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006, that falls under jurisdiction of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee.

Future Combat Systems

“Funding for the military’s future combat system has been reduced by \$400 million in order to allow the technologies involved to mature. We have been pouring too much money into a system this is a decade away from reality. And while our nation is at war, equipping our troops on the ground must be our highest priority,” said **Subcommittee Ranking Member Neil Abercrombie (HI)**.

VXX Aircraft

“An aircraft that hasn’t been fully tested should not be declared operationally ready, especially if the intention of that aircraft is to transport the President of the United States,” noted **Abercrombie**. “There is no logical reason why the VXX should not be subject to the testing standards imposed on every other military aircraft. Fortunately, this legislation imposes that requirement.”

Joint Tactical Radio System

Abercrombie pointed out, “The Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) has not been able to deliver hardware that is capable of achieving the goals for which it was originally designed. Our bill reduces the JTRS program by \$133 million, in order to ensure that we don’t make the mistake of buying radios that don’t work.”

C-130 J Program

“The ability to transport large quantities of people and cargo is a crucial component of our military’s capability,” said **Rep. Mike McIntyre (NC)**, “and to that end this bill fully funds the procurement of 9 C-130 J aircraft for the Air Force and four KC-130 J aircraft for the Marine Corps. As we await the results of several pending DOD studies, it is important that we not prematurely limit our military’s transport and refueling capability.”

Information is not considered final until committee passage of H.R.1815.

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